

APPLEFORD-ON-THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Appleford on Tuesday 15th January 2008.

Present: Cllrs G Manning (Chair), A Sharp and P Horton.

In attendance: Judy Beck (Clerk) and one member of the public.

08/1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs G Duffield and C Lamont.

08/2 Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests.

There were none.

08/3 Fields in Trust

The meeting was attended by Mr Paul Allen, Fields Protection Officer at Fields in Trust, who explained the mechanism for a Deed of Dedication to protect land in recreational use. Fields in Trust is the working title of the National Playing Fields Association (FPFA), a registered charity. Mr Allen explained how his organisation offers local councils, together with Fields in Trust, the chance to legally dedicate land to recreational use in perpetuity, whilst the council retains ownership and financial control. It was agreed to discuss this option further at the next meeting.

08/4 Minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2007

It was resolved to approve the minutes as a correct record of the meeting and the Chairman signed accordingly.

08/5 Matters Arising

a) Bus shelter

The grant application has now been submitted to the County Council.

b) Access to Recreation Ground

The Council had received a reply to the recent letter from one resident. The Council noted this and the Clerk will reply.

c) Playground Equipment

Cllr Sharp queried whether the weekly RoSPA check of the playground is being done, and will check with Mr Flinders.

d) Co-option

It was agreed that the Council would co-opt a new member at the next meeting to fill the current vacancy. The Clerk to post a notice of vacancy to the village noticeboard and in the Pressings.

08/6 County and District Councillors Reports

There were none.

08/7 Public Participation

- a) Bridge Farm Gravel Extraction: Concern was raised about the Council's request to return the land to agricultural use whilst there was still strong support in the village for a wetland.

- b) The Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) needs support from the Council. The meeting agreed that a member of the Council would attend future NAG meetings.

08/8 Liaison Meetings

- a) Power Station
Cllr Horton reported that the next meeting will be held on 21st January, and that Mr C Martin had volunteered to be the other representative from the village.
- b) 13 parishes
Cllr Horton attended a meeting on 11th January. Ed Vaizey, MP, had attended.

08/9 Correspondence

This has been circulated on a regular basis since the last meeting and items are listed on file.

08/10 Finance

- a) The following payments were authorised.

Cheque	Payee	Purpose	Amount	VAT
822	Wicksteed Leisure	Spares for playground	£16.46	£2.46
823	L Dalby	Clerk's salary and expenses	£231.02	
824	Appleford Parochial Church Council	Grass cutting of Churchyard	£194.00	

- b) The precept request for 2008/2009 was agreed in the sum of £6,200.
- c) The councillors agreed to submit a new mandate to the bank with details of the new clerk and change of address, and for Cllr Sharp to be added as authorised signatory to the account.

08/11 Village Hall

- a) Refurbishment
Cllr Horton reported that final invoices for work carried out by the builder will be re-submitted to WREN by 17th January as agreed with them, and that payment of £50,00 grant has been approved verbally. Payment of the first sum of £50,000 to Buildwright was approved in principle by the Councillors on receipt of the grant into the council's bank account. Funding for the project is still within the budget of £110,000.
- b) Health and Safety
The Health and Safety requirement will be met by the appointment of a Coordinator as required by the Construction, (Design and Management) Regulations 2007.
- c) Marquee

The Vale of the White Horse District Council had informed the Clerk that they would not be taking any further action over the marquee, which has now been moved.

d) Green Lane

Cllr Sharp had not yet received the relevant form from the Land Registry to declare an interest in the land. It was suggested that legal services in the District Council could advise on the appropriate action and that the most appropriate contact name for the register should be the Priest in charge at the Church of St Peter and St Paul (Reverend Helen Kendrick).

08/12 ACP

The ACP has not been active as the committee is awaiting the outcome of the questionnaire for the PAP.

08/13 PAP

Cllr Sharp reported that there will be a meeting to decide on the content of a questionnaire to be distributed, initially only to ten properties, to determine if they understand the purpose and content and gather feedback. People in these households will not be required to fill in the questionnaire, but may do so. After feedback, the questionnaire will be revised if necessary before distribution to all households during February.

Npower has agreed to print out the questionnaires for the village, free of charge.

The Parish Action Plan is expected to be completed in March, based on the feedback from the questionnaires.

Cllr Manning suggested that, as the village hall refurbishment should be completed at the end of February, a fund-raising event could be held there in support of the Parish Action Plan.

08/14 Planning

JOD/TP/8.4/5193/9: Sutton Courtenay Landfill, Appleford Sidings, Abingdon OX14 4PW. Installation of a landfill gas utilisation engine to supplement the existing landfill gas compound (permitted under planning consent nos SUT/616/44-CM 18 May 1998 and SUT/616/54-CM 23 December 2002 – retrospective application).

08/15 Any other Business

None.

08/16 Date and Venue of next meeting

Tuesday 11th March 2008 in the Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm.

08/17 Close of Meeting

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm